



A Community Dialogue about Tax Reform

Learn about recent changes to our state's tax system
and ways to create a stronger future for California.

Thursday, March 19, 2009, 5:30 p.m. – 9 p.m., Cabrillo College

Speak with fellow community members and make your voice heard.

California Forward, a bipartisan public-interest organization committed to more effective government, invites you to an interactive community dialogue about our state's tax system. Topics to be discussed include:

- What happened in the recent budget deal?
- What are the persistent structural problems in our tax system?
- How does our tax system affect our long-term goals for the future?
- What is the range of options for reform?
- Who should decide what taxes are levied and how they are spent?

A recently completed state budget deal uses a mix of spending cuts, borrowing and temporary tax increases to address the state's current fiscal crisis. Parts of the plan depend on voter approval in a special election on May 19, 2009. Even if voters approve the ballot measures, most of the state's underlying financial problems will remain. How can California get past the cycle of perennial budget crises and focus on creating a thriving future?

We are all taxpayers and are all affected by these policy decisions. Whether you think the total amount of taxes we pay is too high or too low, come learn about ways to make our state's tax system more effective in meeting long-term goals.

CO-HOSTED BY:

Assembly Member Bill Monning, California Assembly District 27

Fred Keeley, Santa Cruz County Treasurer. Fred is a member of the Governor's Commission on the 21st Century Economy (advising on tax reform) and *California Forward's* Leadership Council.

The session will include video and PowerPoint presentations, a series of small group dialogues and immediate reporting of results via interactive keypads.

- Check-in and registration at 5:30 p.m. Buffet dinner provided.
- The meeting will begin promptly at 6 p.m.
- RSVPs are required to attend the event.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Michelle Sisson at msisson@caforward.org or by calling (415) 454-6500.

